

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STOCKH 04259 100938Z

17
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 068635
R 100910Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8328

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 4259

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF WASHDC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, BEXP, SW, IN
SUBJECT: SAAB-SCANIA REQUEST FOR U.S. PERMISSION FOR
EXPORT OF VIGGEN TO INDIA

REF: (A) STOCKHOLM 4230, (B) STOCKHOLM 4231,
(C) STATE 192694

1. WE INFORMED MFA ACTING DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
KNUT THYBERG OF USG DECISION THAT NO VERSION OF THE
VIGGEN CONTAINING ANY CLASSIFIED U.S. COMPONENTS WOULD
BE ACCEPTABLE FOR TRANSFER TO INDIA. (REF C). WE ALSO
STATED THAT IF GOS WERE TO SUBMIT FORMAL REQUEST FOR
PERMISSION TO EXPORT VIGGEN TO INDIA IT WOULD BE
REFUSED.
2. THYBERG (WHO IS RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL IN MFA FOR
ARMS EXPORTS) REPLIED THAT DECISION WAS NOT RPT NOT
UNEXPECTED. CONTINUING, HE SAID THAT FROM SWEDISH
VIEWPOINT, MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THAT USG "CONTINUE
TO HAVE FAITH IN SWEDISH COMMITMENT TO MILITARY RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION" WITH US.
3. CONVERSATION THEN TURNED TO OTHER ISSUES. HOWEVER,
AT END OF MEETING, THYBERG TOLD POLITICAL COUNSELOR
THAT HE WISHED TO EMPHASIZE AGAIN THE "GREAT IMPORTANCE"

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GOS PLACED ON ITS MILITARY COOPERATION WITH US, ADDING

THAT IT WAS IMPERATIVE THAT THERE BE "NO SHADOW ON OUR RELIABILITY" IN THIS AREA.

4. COMMENT: THYBERG'S COMMENTS REINFORCE POINTS MADE IN REF B THAT (A) GOS PLACES EXTREMELY HIGH VALUE ON ITS R&D COOPERATION WITH USG AND (B) THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR INFERRING THAT SAAB-SCANIA REQUEST TO EXPORT VIGGEN SUGGESTED A WEAKENING OF SWEDISH DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN A VIABLE DEFENSE FORCE OR CHANGE IN SWEDISH MILITARY EXPORT POLICY.
SMITH

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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